

8-15-02
Pre-Amendment

Docket No.: 55071-131

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Xuelong SHI, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: February 27, 2002

Examiner:

For: METHOD OF IDENTIFYING AN EXTREME INTERACTION PITCH REGION,
METHODS OF DESIGNING MASK PATTERNS AND MANUFACTURING MASKS,
DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHODS AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" insert the following:

--RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a Continuation-In-Part of United States Patent Application No. 09/840,305, filed April 24, 2001, ^{now U.S. Patent No. 6,519,760 B2 issued February 11, 2003.} which claims priority from United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/271,722 filed on February 28, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--